

MINUTES
JACKSON COUNTY COUNCIL
June 16, 2010

Council President Fountain called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. Sheriff Marc Lahrman did the swearing in of the Council. Councilman Brewer led the Pledge of Allegiance and Councilman Thompson led us in the Lords Prayer.

Members Present: Councilman Fountain, Councilman Thompson,
Councilman Brewer, Councilwoman Hackman,
Councilman Reedy

Others Present: Sheriff Marc Lahrman, Attorney Susan Bevers,
Auditor Debra Eggeman

Councilman Brewer made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 19, 2010 meeting as presented. Councilman Reedy seconded. Three (3) yes votes, motion carried.

Councilwoman Hackman reported that Commissioners have approved the amended Canine Control Ordinance and it is to take effect on July 15, 2010.

Councilman Thompson reported that he has received information on the Cost of Community Service Ratio study. The study is not entirely complete yet. The report received breaks down the properties into three groups (residential, agricultural and business) and compares the consumption of county services to the tax payments. Jackson County is very close to average in the state.

Councilman Brewer gave a brief update on the County Website. Training will begin next week for office holders and the website should be live on August 3, 2010.

Councilman Fountain made the first reading of the Additional Appropriation requests. Councilman Reedy made a motion to approve upon first reading. Councilwoman Hackman seconded. Five (5) yes votes, motion carried.

County Auditor Debra Eggeman submitted an Additional request from the county general fund in the amount of \$1,000.00 for level II pay for the former Jackson Township Assessor. Councilwoman Hackman made a motion to approve the request. Councilman Brewer seconded. Five (5) yes votes, motion carried.

County Auditor Debra Eggeman submitted an Additional request from the GOB Series 2007 Fund in the amount of \$3,525.65 for the purchase of a copier for the Auditors office. Councilman Reedy made a motion to approve the request. Councilman Thompson seconded. Five (5) yes votes, motion carried.

The County Commissioners submitted an Additional request from the Rainy Day Fund in the amount of \$50,000.00 to pay for repairs needed at the Jackson County Fairgrounds. Councilwoman Hackman made a motion to approve the request. Councilman Brewer seconded. Jack Montgomery was in attendance and explained procedures the Fair Board follows before repairs are made. The Building and Grounds Commission makes recommendation to the Fair

Board on repairs needed. Councilman Thompson submitted a Profit & Loss statement which is attached. Councilman Thompson expressed his concern that Fair Board members did not come before Council earlier. It is important for Council to have time to find funding for these projects. Councilman Thompson stated that he is in favor of approving only half of the \$50,000.00 request and the Fair Board should be responsible for the other half. Council has procedure to follow when spending the taxpayer's money. John Schafstall stated that the Fair Board has not requested additional funding from the county for several years. Councilman Fountain stated that he understands the time constraints the Fair Board was under but agrees with Brian. Councilwoman Hackman suggested that monies appropriated in the Visitors Center budget for the Jackson County Fair be used for some of these future expenses. Four (4) yes votes, and one (1) no vote (Councilman Thompson, motion carried.

Councilman Brewer made a motion to waive the third reading of the Additional Appropriation requests and approve as on the second reading. Councilwoman Hackman seconded. Five (5) yes votes, motion carried.

Councilman Fountain made the first reading of the Emergency Transfer Requests. Councilwoman Hackman made a motion to approve upon first reading. Councilman Brewer seconded. Five (5) yes votes, motion carried.

County Coroner Roger Wheeler appeared before Council requesting a transfer of funds in the amount of \$600.00 from 1-7-114 (Deputy Call Out) to 1-7-335 (State Meetings). Councilwoman Hackman made a motion to approve the request. Councilman Brewer seconded. Five (5) yes votes, motion carried.

Councilman Thompson made a motion to waive the third reading of the Emergency Transfer requests and approve as on the second reading. Councilwoman Hackman seconded. Five (5) yes votes, motion carried.

Visitor Center Director Tina Stark appeared before Council to explain the importance of having investment monies in reserve. Tina explained that the sole source of revenue for the Visitors Center is the innkeeper's tax. Sales representatives with the Hampton Inn and Fairfield Inn were in attendance and stated that the occupancy rate is very slow due to the economy. Tina stated that the monies appropriated to the Jackson County Fair can be used for promotions and that promotions can include anything that gets the word out. Councilman Brewer cited IC 6-9-32-4 which states that expenditures may include but are not limited to, expenses for advertising, promotional activities, etc.

Councilwoman Hackman presented the Budget for the Jackson County Solid Waste. Councilman Fountain who sits on the Solid Waste Board stated that the budget has not changed much from last year. Councilman Brewer made a motion to approve. Councilman Thompson seconded. Four (4) yes votes, motion carried. Councilwoman Hackman abstained.

Mayor Craig Luedeman appeared before Council informing them of plans to shift the Jackson Township line to include a portion of the residential properties in Jackson/Redding. Councilman Fountain stated that the County Commissioners make the decisions on the county lines. Mayor Luedeman stated that he would like County Council support before going before Commissioners and he does not expect an answer tonight. Redding Township Trustee Conrad Calmer was also in attendance and stated that he does not have a comment at this time but would like time to look at the issue more closely. When asked by Councilman Brewer the number of parcels involved, Mayor Luedeman stated that there were 568.

Council directed Attorney Susan Bevers to compose a letter to the units of the county requesting that they submit their budgets online. Council will review the unit budgets in July.

Sheriff Marc Lahrman submitted his monthly report for May 2010.

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 PM.

Andy Fountain – President

Debra Eggeman - attest